Historic Preservation Commission Regular Called Meeting April 18, 2006

Item 1. Call to Order:

The Round Rock Historic Preservation Commission met in a regular called meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2006 in the Planning Conference Room located at 301 W. Bagdad, Suite 210. Present were Chairperson Gary Brown, Vice Chairperson Lynn Smith, and Commissioners Billy Huggins and David Crutchfield. Also in attendance were Joelle Jordan, Senior Planner, and Amy Swaim, Administrative Technician. With a quorum present, Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Item 2. Approval of Minutes

2.a. March 21, 2006 Regular Meeting

Motion: Motion by Commissioner Huggins, second by Commissioner Crutchfield to approve the March 21, 2006 minutes as presented.

Vote: Ayes: Gary Brown

Lynn Smith

Billy Huggins

David Crutchfield

Noes: None

Non-Voting: None

Absent: Earl Palmer

Abstain: None

Action: Motion carried

Item 3. New Business

3.a. Consider a request by Rik Morris of 100 E. Main Street to remove the

fence behind the building and replace the portion of the fence that screens the stairs and piping beneath the stairs.

Ms. Jordan summarized the request. She indicated the fence has come apart at the bottom, as noted on a previous tax exemption inspection, and the proposal is to remove the existing fence and replace only the part that screens the stairs and the piping. Ms. Jordan questioned what would happen to the existing vegetation and if there are any issues with the screening of the mechanical equipment.

Rik Morris, property owner, stated he wants to improve the aesthetics of the property by removing the fence. He indicated he would like to screen the stairs and pipes, and he would screen the air conditioning units with a half fence if needed. Mr. Morris stated he does not believe the existing vegetation and the air conditioning units will look bad.

Commissioner Crutchfield indicated according to the photos, one side of the fence is vertical slats while the other side is lattice. He asked for clarification regarding the materials and construction of the proposed screening.

Mr. Morris stated he wants to remove the entire fence. He indicated he is currently investigating the price of materials to screen the stairs, pipes, and meters only.

Ms. Jordan stated she was under the impression that the applicant wanted to use lattice for the screening.

Mr. Morris stated he did indicate lattice as a proposed material for the bottom of the stairs. He indicated he would prefer lattice for both cost and ventilation reasons.

Ms. Jordan indicated she believes lattice is acceptable to screen the stairs.

Commissioner Smith stated she has no problem with lattice as a screening material.

Ms. Jordan indicated she is more concerned with the air conditioning units and whether or not they should be screened in some way.

Mr. Morris stated the back of his building, even with the air conditioning units exposed, is better looking than the backs of most of the buildings on his street.

Commissioner Smith indicated the vegetation is attractive, and she believes lattice will be fine if the ordinance requires screening. She asked Mr. Morris what color he would paint the lattice.

Mr. Morris stated the lattice would match the stairs.

The Commission discussed placement of screening around the air conditioning units.

Motion: Motion by Commissioner Crutchfield, second by Commissioner Smith to allow the removal of the existing fence. The Commission would request a fence that would be a replacement screen for the existing mechanical units that would be at least as high as the highest mechanical units, extending out at least to the mechanical unit that is further away from the building. The screening material for both the mechanical units and the stairs would be lattice, painted to match the stairs.

Commissioner Huggins asked to abstain from the vote.

Chairman Brown granted the request.

Vote: Ayes: Gary Brown

Lynn Smith

David Crutchfield

Noes: None

Non-Voting: None

Absent: Earl Palmer

Abstain: Billy Huggins

Action: Motion carried

Mr. Morris also mentioned a sewer leak in the alley behind his property and asked to whom he should address the issue.

Ms. Jordan suggested contacting Public Works and indicated she would research this matter.

Chairman Brown acknowledged Commissioner Huggins as rejoining the meeting as a Commission member.

Item 4. Planner Report - Presentation of schedule and inspection information for 2006 partial tax exemption program for historically significant sites.

Ms. Jordan explained the process in which applicants have until April 30, 2006 to submit their applications for tax-exempt eligibility. Ms. Jordan indicated that Commissioner's inspections must occur simultaneously with application submittals. She summarized the inspection process and stated inspection sheets should be turned in by Friday, May 5.

Item 5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Swaim

Administrative Technician